Message Text

CONFIDE	INTIAL

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R 162102Z AUG 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 180467

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANILA 9794 ACTION SECSTATE 16 AUG

OUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 9794

USADB

TREASURY FOR ZINMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJ: POSSIBLE IRAN ASSOCIATION WITH ADB

- 1. PRESIDENT INOUE RECENTLY MENTIONED TO U.S. DIRECTOR (AS WELL AS TO OTHER DIRECTORS IN INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSIONS) HIS INTENTIONS TO DISCUSS ADB MEMBERSHIP WITH IRANIANS AT BANK/FUND MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON. IRAN EXPRESSED INTEREST THIS SUBJECT DURING JULY VISIT BY ADB SECRETARY TO TEHRAN.
- 2. DEPENDING ON SIZE OF CONTRIBUTIONS, INOUE APPEARS PREPARED AT MINIMUM TO PROPOSE INCREASE IN BOARD SIZE TO ACCOMMODATE IRAN AND, AT MAXIMUM, BOTH INCREASE IN BOARD SIZE AS WELL AS POSSIBLE VICE PRESIDENT POSITION (NOT CLEAR WHETHER VP POSITION EXISTING ONE OR ADDITIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITION TO BE CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR IRAN). HOWEVER,

INOUE APPARENTLY HAS NO FIRM IDEA ABOUT AMOUNT IRAN PREPARED TO SUBSCRIBE.

3. CONSIDERABLE CONCERN ON PART OF SOME DIRECTORS, E.G., GERMAN, AUSTRALIAN, AND INDIAN, THAT PRESIDENT PREPARED GIVE TOO MUCH AWAY FOR IRANIAN MEMBERSHIP IN BANK, PARTICULARLY IF VP POSITION PART OF BARGAIN. ALSO CONCERN THAT BANK'S COMPLEXION AND IDENTITY IN REGION MAY BE CONSIDERABLY ALTERED BY INCLUSION IRAN IF IRAN MEMBERSHIP CARRIES WITH IT EXTENSIVE STAFFING, VOTING WEIGHT, AND BOARD DIRECTOR. HENCE FEELING THAT INOUE NEEDS TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY IN WASHINGTON, MAKING NO COMMITMENTS IN ADVANCE OF BOARD KNOWLEDGE AND MEMBER COUNTRY APPROVAL.

4. USADB GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC WITH CONCERNS OUTLINED ABOVE - ESPECIALLY REGARDING INCLINATION TO OVERCOMMIT AT EARLY STAGE OF DISCUSSIONS. WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS SOONEST THIS SUBJECT. NOTE, TOO, THAT POSSIBLE INOUE APPOINTMENTS IN WASHINGTON PRIOR TO WEEK OF BANK/FUND MEETINGS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY U.S. VIEWS. SULLIVAN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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TAGS: EAID, EFIN, IR, ADB-1

To: TEHRAN

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